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**D38 BOE (Cont. from 1)**

standards and that the culture of excellence is no longer a sufficient incentive to come to work here.

In his board member comments, board President Chris Taylor said a lot of work was put into the initiative, and voter approval would result in bringing compensation up to average in the area. He said it is past time to improve compensation, as evidenced by the high turnover rate among staff.

The board approved the proposed wording of the initiative and appointed Vicki Wood as the district's election representative to notify the county of its intent to participate in the Nov. 8 election.

To view the meeting in its entirety, go to the district website, [lewispalmer.org](http://lewispalmer.org), choose Board of Education, meetings, and livestream.

**Staff recognition**

Palmer Ridge High School Principal Dr. Adam Frank introduced theater teacher Josh Belk, who has been named the 2022 Colorado Thespians Teacher of the Year. Executive Director of Operations Chris Coulter introduced Julie Abeyta, the new D38 transportation supervisor, and her




**Above:** At the D38 board meeting Aug. 22, Palmer Ridge High School (PRHS) principal Dr. Adam Frank introduced theatre teacher Josh Belk to recognize him for this prestigious award from the Colorado State Thespians (CSP). In its press release, CSP noted that Belk allows students to succeed and fail and teaches life lessons along the way. Belk said he strives to create positive connections between students and teachers and also among theatre teachers in the state. Pictured from left to right: Board member Theresa Phillips, Belk, Superintendent KC Somers, and Frank. *Photo by Jackie Burhans*

assistant, Mike Shad. Superintendent KC Somers commented that Abeyta's department is responsible for 120 vehicles and 350 activity trips per year and ensuring

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